



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

REFORMS BY

THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

As of
June 15, 2025



INTRODUCTION

This booklet outlines key reform initiatives undertaken by the Interim Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh across various sectors. These reforms reflect the government's commitment to transparency, accountability, and inclusive development. The compilation represents a snapshot as of June 15, 2025, and is part of a continuous, evolving process. It is not an exhaustive list, but a living document that will be updated as reforms progress and new initiatives are adopted.

POWER SECTOR

1. Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply

Type: Ordinance repealing legislation

Date: 28 November 2024

Description:

Repeal of the Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act 2010.

2. Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 27 August 2024

Description:

The government revoked amendments to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) Act that had centralized tariff-setting power with the Prime Minister's Office. BERC now independently regulates energy prices through public hearings, restoring transparency and aligning with IMF bailout conditions.

3. Capacity Payment Clauses

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing process

Description:

The government is revising contracts with Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to eliminate "capacity payment" clauses, which obligated payments regardless of electricity generation.

4. Renewable Energy Policy

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing process

Description: Ongoing process

5. Merchant Power Policy

Type: Policy

Date: 1 December 2024

Description:

The Merchant Power Policy (MPP) in Bangladesh shifts the power sector by allowing private sector players to sell electricity directly to distributors or buyers, rather than solely to the Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB).

6. Letters of Intent to purchase renewable energy

Type: Ordinance

Date: 18 November 2024

Description:

The Government cancelled the 31 LOIs (Letter of Intent) issued during the previous regime to

purchase renewable energy from unsolicited proposals.

RAILWAY SECTOR

1. Operational Plan

Type: Ordinance
Date: 3 October 2024

Description:
Short-term reforms are being implemented from the two-year railway reform plan. This includes adjusting the number of trains and coaches on different routes, increase sectional speed, forming a 'quick response team' for emergency assistance during accidents, and establishing monitoring cells to oversee service quality.

ELECTORAL REFORM

1. National Parliament Constituency Delimitation

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: Final draft approved by the Advisory Council in early May 2025.

Description:

Part of short-term technical reforms for the preparation of the next elections.

2. Representation of the People Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: Currently under revision by the Bangladesh Election Commission.

Description:

Amendment to Section 91C of the Representation of the People Act 1972. Governs accreditation process for domestic and international election observers.

JUSTICE SECTOR

1. Supreme Court Judges Appointment Ordinance

Type: Ordinance
Date: January 2025

Description:

Establishes a Supreme Judicial Appointment Council chaired by the Chief Justice to ensure transparent, merit-based appointments to the higher judiciary.

2. Supreme Court Secretariat Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: Under review / draft

Description:

Proposes to establish an autonomous Supreme Court Secretariat under the authority of the Chief Justice, ending dual executive-judicial control over lower courts' administration and enabling financial and institutional autonomy of the judiciary.

3. International Crimes Tribunal Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: November 2024 & May 2025

Description:

Various amendments to the International Crimes Tribunal Act 1973. The first set of amendments in November 2024 aimed to bring the ICT Act in line with international criminal justice standards (e.g. inadmissibility of evidence obtained by means of a human rights violation, possibility of seeking foreign counsel, legal defence available for persons tried in absentia, appeal process for persons prosecuted for contempt of court, etc.). The second set of amendments in May 2025 aimed to facilitate the adoption of restrictive measures against the Awami League, e.g. by empowering the ICT to ban political parties, cancel party registrations, and confiscate assets

of political parties charged with crimes against humanity, genocide or war crimes.

4. Specialised commercial courts

Type: Ordinance
Date: Ongoing process / adoption expected by end of 2025

Description:

Establishes specialised Commercial Courts in Bangladesh to ensure the speedy and efficient resolution of commercial disputes of a specified value (minimum BDT 50 lakh), thereby promoting investment, supporting economic growth, and enhancing the business environment. The Ordinance provides for pre-institution mediation, dedicated commercial benches, fast-track procedures, appellate mechanisms, and data transparency. EU support and expertise provided through TAIX.

PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL SECTOR

1. Revenue Policy and Revenue Management Ordinance

Type: Ordinance
Date: 12 May 2025

Description:

An ordinance to facilitate the restructuring and splitting of the Revenue authority into two separate entities: the Revenue Policy Division and the Revenue Administration Division. The purpose of this ordinance is to improve efficiency and governance of the tax system while broadening the tax base and revenue collection. However, this decision has since been put on hold. The Ministry of Finance (Mo) announced in a press release on 22 May 2025, that all necessary amendments to the ordinance will be made by 31 July 2025, to ensure proper separation of revenue policy formulation and revenue administration.

2. Public Accounts Audit Ordinance

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: 17 April 2025 (Gazetted in May 2025)

Description:

The purpose of this ordinance is to improve efficiency and governance of the public accounts audit.

3. Public Procurement Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: 17 April 2025 (Gazetted in May 2025)

Description:

The purpose of this ordinance amending the Public Procurement Act 2006 is to improve efficiency and governance of the public procurement. The new ordinance will make the use of the e-Government Procurement (e-GP) portal mandatory for all public procurement, aiming to increase transparency and efficiency. This new law will also help to curb project cost overruns and avoid price manipulation during implementation.

4. Bank Resolution Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: 17 April 2025 (Gazetted in 9 May 2025)

Description:

The purpose of this ordinance is to address financial crises in Bangladesh's banking sector. It empowers Bangladesh Bank to take temporary control of failing banks, including state-owned, private, and foreign institutions. It would allow making quick policy decisions for mergers, acquisitions, liquidation, or re-capitalisation of any bank under the law.

5. Distressed Asset Management Ordinance (DAMO)

Type: Ordinance

Date: August 2025

Description:

The DAMO is drafted and implemented by a 4-member task force in alignment with the IMF, the World Bank and the Ministry of Finance. In addition, there is a separate 10+ member "Legal Expert Team" to identify major legal impediments to large corporate loan recovery, starting with the Money Loan Court Act, and to propose practical reforms to overcome such impediments. A third task force will suggest to - and obtain buy-in from - bank CEOs to include specific self-executing provisions in all new and restructured corporate loans to strengthen creditors' rights without triggering court intervention.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

1. Cyber Security Ordinance

Type: Ordinance repealing and replacing previous legislation

Date: Published 21 May 2025

Description:

Repeal of Cybersecurity Act 2023 and major

overhaul of cybersecurity legislation through a new ordinance. Covers cyber-crimes and threats detection, prevention and prosecution and related legal issues. EU support and expertise provided under e-Governance project.

2. Personal Data Protection Ordinance

Type: Ordinance
Date: Ongoing process / in final stages of drafting

Description:
New legislation on privacy and data protection. Covers the gathering, processing and use of Personal Data. EU support and expertise provided under e-Governance project.

3. Interoperability Ordinance

Type: Ordinance
Date: Ongoing process

Description:
Framework law to facilitate intergovernmental data exchange and processing.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND CHILD PROTECTION

1. Women and Children Repression Prevention Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: March 2025

Description:

This amendment updated and expanded several provisions to enhance protection for women and children. Key features of the 2025 amendment include: Punishment for rape; Definition of rape & age of consent; Punishment for abetment of suicide; Sexual harassment-Definition & Penalty; Rights of children born from rape; Timeframe for investigations; Confidentiality and media restrictions; Compensation fund for rape survivors.

2. Sexual Harassment prevention and Protection Act

Type: Legislation

Date: Ongoing process / draft legislation

Description:

In 2024, with support from UN Women and Civil Society groups, the government of Bangladesh renewed efforts to draft a comprehensive Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Bill. The updated draft includes: A clear legal definition of sexual harassment; A formal complaint and investigation process; Mandatory internal complaint committees in institutions; Legal penalties for offenders.

3. Domestic Violence Act

Type: Amendment of legislation

Date: Ongoing process/draft legislation

Description:

The Government of Bangladesh is currently undertaking efforts to amend the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2010, aiming to enhance its effectiveness in safeguarding victims and ensuring timely justice. The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs has proposed revisions to the Act to address existing gaps and challenges.

EDUCATION

1. Textbooks and Curriculum

Type: Decision

Date: October- December 2024

Description:

Although the new curriculum was abandoned for the secondary education level by the IG, it is still in force for primary education. This ensured a smooth continuation of the teaching and learning process unlike in secondary education.

2. Basic Training for Primary school Teachers

Type: Decision

Date: December 2024

Description:

The duration of the fundamental in-service training for primary school teachers was reduced from 1 years to 6 months by the previous government. The interim Government has revised the training duration to 10 months following recommendation from an EU-funded study.

3. Remedial education framework

Type: Framework
Date: Ongoing process / approval by
Ministry of Primary and Mass
Education expected by
Junem30, 2025

Description:

GoB agreed to adopt a framework to address the low learning level. With the use of this framework, specific interventions, i.e. remedial education, will be implemented to address the low learning levels and learning gaps of children. With the use of extra classes and materials along with special teaching learning methods, the intervention will be implemented throughout the country in addition to regular classes.

TVET

1. Bangladesh National Qualifications Framework (BNQF)

Type: Policy
Date: BNQF policy drafted and submitted for Cabinet approval.

Description:

This national policy framework is designed to standardise and integrate qualifications across primary, secondary, technical-vocational, and higher education sectors in Bangladesh. It aligns

all credentials under a unified 10-level structure, facilitating seamless transitions between different educations and training pathways. This reform was initially submitted to cabinet by the previous government.

2. Introduction of Vocational & Technical Subjects in Degree Programmes

Type: Decision
Date: February 9, 2025

Description:

This initiative aims to restructure the existing four-year honours programme into a three-year academic course, followed by a one-year diploma focusing on technical education. Graduates will receive two separate certificates: one for the honours degree and another for the technical diploma.

3. E-Learning development for Vocational Education

Type: Action Plan
Date: Expected by June 2025

Description:

An action plan for developing a modular-based Learning Management System for teacher professional development to implement blended education in TVET.

4. TVET Implementation plan

Type: Implementation Plan

Date: Expected by June 2025

Description:

The key focus of the initiative is to develop a Medium-Term (FY2025-2030) implementation plan with costed annual activities and results for expanding and strengthening the TVET system over the next five years.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

1. Social protection budget for FY 2025/26

Type: Budget

Date: June 2025

Description:

Almost 40% of the social protection budget for FY 2024/25) is allocated to programmes that do not directly target the poor - namely the Civil Service Pension, Savings Certificate Interest Assistance, and Agricultural Subsidy. If these programmes are excluded, the share of the social protection budget relative to GDP drops from 2.43% to 1.78%. The programme 'Savings Certificate Interest Assistance' has been removed from the social

protection budget. In the social protection budget document for FY 2025/26, the Finance Division will publish a list of pro-poor social protection programmes, providing a transparent overview of the schemes that specifically target the poor.

2. Employment Injury Scheme (EIS) pilot

Type: Social insurance scheme pilot

Date: March 2025

Description:

The EIS pilot (<https://is-pilot-bd.org/>) in Bangladesh is a programme that tests a system to provide compensation and medical care to ready-made garment workers injured at work. It is jointly supported by the Government, employers, Development Partners (including the EU, Germany, Netherlands and Canada) and the technical assistance is provided by the ILO and GIZ. The pilot aims to show how a national insurance scheme for work-related injuries can function effectively. Lessons from the pilot will help design a permanent, government-led scheme in the future. The pilot has been operationalised in Bangladesh's Export Processing Zones (EPZs) since March 2025. To be replicated in 2025 in the leather and footwear sectors. Ongoing discussions to expand the pilot to the ship-breaking sector. National tripartite

consultation started in May 2025, with the goal of transitioning from the pilot to a fully-fledged National Employment Injury Scheme. A national framework and draft law will be prepared by the end of 2025 or early 2026. Full rollout support planned by June 2027.

3. Labour Information Management System

Type: Information Management System

Date: April 2025

Description:

The Labour Information Management System (LIMS) in Bangladesh is a digital platform designed to collect, store, and manage data on workers and factories, both in the formal and informal sectors. The LIMS project is implemented under DIFE from May 2022 to April 2025. The system facilitates the identification and registration of workers and establishments by verifying national identity cards or birth certificates. It helps the Government monitor compliance with labour laws, identify social protection beneficiaries and improve oversight of workplace conditions. The system aims to strengthen transparency and data-driven decision-making in the labour sector. The system includes 650,000 workers & 5,000 factories. Feasibility study for LIMS, phase 2 is ongoing.

Initiative is in line with Labour Reform Commission recommendation on a National Labour Database.

4. Unemployment benefit scheme/programme

Type: Social assistance programme

Date: Expected by 2027

Description:

The Government plans to launch a comprehensive unemployment insurance scheme by 2027.

LABOUR RIGHTS

1. Reform of National Tripartite Consultative Council (TCC)

Type: Reform of a consultative body

Date: December 2024

Description:

In December 2024, the government reconstituted the TCC to make 't more functional and to allow for better representation of workers and employers. The reformed TCC has met three times so far in 2025 and the changes have been welcomed by workers' groups.

2. Ratification of new ILO Conventions

Type: Ratification of international conventions
Date: Draft ratification proposals under technical review since early 2025

Description:

The Interim Government pledged to ratify Convention 155 (Occupational Safety and Health), Convention 187 (Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health), and Convention 190 (Violence and Harassment at Work) by September 2025 to align domestic regulations with global norms. Conventions 155 and 187 face no controversy and are proceeding as scheduled; Convention 190 encounters employer opposition, complicating its ratification, though the Government remains committed to completing it.

3. Bangladesh Labour Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: Expected by July 2025

Description:

In late 2024, the government drafted an updated BLA, in close cooperation and consultation with the ILO, as well as key trading partners. The Government is expected to issue an ordinance amending the BLA by July 2025 for immediate enforceability.

4. Export Processing Zone Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: Work expected to begin after the adoption of the revised BLA

Description:

EPZs have historically operated under separate labour rules exempting factories from key national provisions-so the government plans a two-phase approach: enact the BLA ordinance in July 2025, then amend the EPZ Act to aim to closely mirror its core worker protections.

MIGRATION

1. Wage Earners Welfare Board Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation
Date: Ongoing process

Description:

The purpose of this revision of the Wage Earners Welfare Board Act 2018 is to improve protection for potential, current, and returnee migrant workers and their families.

2. Amendment of the Overseas Employment and Migrants Rules

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 14 January 2025

Description:

The 2025 amendment seeks to fortify the legal framework governing overseas employment, ensuring that the rights and welfare of Bangladeshi migrant workers are safeguarded through stricter regulations and enhanced support mechanisms. In particular it includes provisions requiring sub-agents to be licensed and held accountable - aimed at curbing fraud, protecting migrant workers, and potentially reducing migration costs, which remain the highest in the region.

HUMAN RIGHTS

1. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Type: Accession to a treaty

Date: August 30, 2024

Description:

Bangladesh formally acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, becoming the 76th party to the treaty. This signifies a commitment to

prevent enforced disappearances and hold perpetrators accountable.

2. Anti-Terrorism Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: May 2025

Description:

New provisions introduced into the Anti-Terrorism Act 2009 enabling the prohibition of individuals or entities involved in terrorist activities and their activities, as well as the publication or printing of any press release, and any form of campaign via mass media, online platforms, social media, or any other medium as well as organising rallies, meetings, press conferences, or public speeches on behalf of or in support of a banned entity.

YOUTH

1. Youth Entrepreneurship Policy

Type: Policy

Date: April 2025

Description:

The Youth Entrepreneurship Policy 2025 has been approved, aiming to identify aspiring youth entrepreneurs and provide them with

comprehensive support, including training and financing, to start and scale their businesses.

OTHER AREAS OF REFORM

1. Public Service Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: May 2025

Description:

The new ordinance amends the Public Service Act 2018 significantly reshaping the disciplinary framework for nearly 1.4 million civil servants, e.g. by introducing quick disciplinary actions with tighter timelines and limits on appeals. It eliminates formal inquiries, raising concerns over arbitrary punishments and weakened defence rights.

Cover Design

Inspired by graffiti art used during the July-August mass uprising of '24.



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